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USCIB: 14.1/26

~~COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

5 October 1954

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS OF USCIB:

Subject: Revision of the UKUSA Agreement.

Reference: USCIB 14.1/24 of 15 September 1954.

1. Vote sheet responses to the reference are as indicated below:

NSA, CIA, FBI:

Straight approval.

ARMY:

Approval - subject to the following:

"Delete Appendices F and K from the list of Appendices in paragraph (a) of the note quoted in paragraph 4. c., Enclosure to USCIB: 14.1/24."

NAVY:

Approval - subject to the following:

"Appendices F and K not included in approval."

AIR FORCE:

Approval - subject to the following:

"USCIB will review and approve any changes or interpretations of Appendices F and K.

"All members of USCIB will be informed in writing through the Executive Secretary, USCIB, of every change or interpretation of Appendices C, D, E, L and M that occurs between NSA and GCHQ."

STATE:

Approval - subject to the following:

"Approved provided NSA consults with the member departments and agencies of USCIB before final acceptance of any revisions."

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Subject: Revision of the UKUSA Agreement.

DEFENSE:

Approval - with the following recommendation:

"Appendix F is believed to contain more material properly requiring inter-Board agreement than it does technical matters of concern primarily to NSA and GCHQ. It is also believed that changes to some of the remaining Appendices listed, such as K, although they contain pre-dominately technical material, might affect the spirit or intent of UKUSA policy or affect matters normally decided by inter-Board agreement.

"Despite the above, the relative ease to be obtained in modifying or up-dating these Appendices by removing the requirement for inter-Board agreement is considered sufficiently desirable to warrant approval of the proposal. The danger of inadvertent changes affecting policy is considered to be minute and entirely acceptable for two reasons: (a) the Directors of NSA and GCHQ are considered fully competent to recognize and avoid these policy areas, and (b) each Board's authority to establish COMINT policy is, of course, entirely unaffected by approval of the proposed note.

"In approving the proposed note, and as a separate action, it is suggested the Board instruct the Director, NSA, to consult with the interested USCIB members prior to agreement with GCHQ when in his opinion a modification to a technical UKUSA appendix might reasonably be expected to impinge on the spirit or intent of current policy."

2. It appears to this office that to accommodate all of the views expressed might result in such a small saving of work and time as to not be worth the effort to make the necessary changes to existing procedures and papers. The comment by the Department of Defense member does, however, seem to offer a basis for solution of the problem.

3. It is therefore suggested that the proposal set forth in the reference be approved subject to the following understanding:

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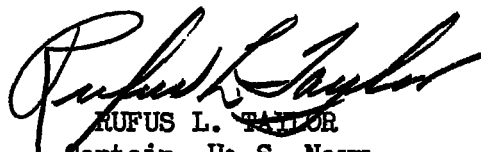
Subject: Revision of the UKUSA Agreement.

a. That the Director, NSA, will consult with interested member departments and agencies of USCIB prior to agreement with GCHQ when in his opinion a modification to Appendices C, D, E, L and M might reasonably be expected to impinge on the spirit or intent of current policy; and,

b. That contemplated changes to Appendices F and K will be notified by the Director, NSA to the member departments and agencies of USCIB prior to reaching an agreement with GCHQ to effect such change.

4. This matter will be placed on the agenda for discussion at USCIBEC at an appropriate time unless, in the interim, all members should indicate to this office that the proposal contained in paragraph 3 above is acceptable.

5. THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND SHALL BE HANDLED ONLY IN CHANNELS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR ~~COMINT.~~


RUFUS L. TAYLOR
Captain, U: S. Navy
Executive Secretary, USCIB

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